

PUBLIC ACCESS ROOM

A division of the Legislative Reference Bureau

N E W S L E T T E R

Hawaii State Capitol ♦ 415 South Beretania Street ♦ Room 401 ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 587-0478 ♦ Fax: (808) 587-0793 ♦ Email: par@capitol.hawaii.gov**Legislative Timetable****January**

15th Opening Day.
 21st State-of-the-State Address.
 23rd One day recess.
 24th Last day for introduction of bills.

February

14th First Lateral.
 20th -26th Mandatory 5 day recess.
 28th Filing Deadline for First Decking

March

3rd One day recess.
 5th One day recess.
 6th First Crossover.
 12th Last day to intro substantive resolutions.
 21st Second Lateral.

April

4th Filing deadline for Second Decking.
 7th One day recess.
 9th One day recess.
 10th Second Crossover.
 Last day to Disagree.
 15th One day recess.
 17th Deadline for final form of constitutional amendments.
 21st Second Crossover for concurrent resolutions.
 24th Last day to file non-fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.
 25th Last day to file fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.
 28th One day recess.
 30th One day recess.

May

1st Adjournment Sine Die.

CONTACT US:

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E-mail: par@capitol.hawaii.govTestimony E-mail: testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov**2003 Legislature**

The complexion of the 2003 Hawaii State Legislature is set and there are a number of changes that have taken place through the past election. 2002 was probably the most important election year since statehood. The reapportionment commission redrew district lines based upon US Census demographic data. Consequently, every seat in the Hawaii State Legislature was up for election. This has resulted in an incredibly high number of new legislators coming into the legislature this year – 23 people, 16 Representatives and 7 Senators.

The House of Representatives has an unusually large class this year. They are a diverse group that includes 3 Representatives under the age of thirty and 2 Representatives, Rep. Sol Kahoochala and Rep. Robert Herkes, who are returning to the legislature after previous tenures in the House. This change in membership also ushers in a change in leadership for 2003.



Rep. Marcus Oshiro has shifted his responsibilities from Majority Leader to Chair of the House Labor Committee. This means that Rep. Scott Saiki is now the new Majority Leader for 2003. Rep. Brian Schatz ascends to Chair the House Economic Development and Business Concerns Committee after former Rep. Lei Ahu Isa lost her bid for Senate. Other Chairs that have changed include Rep. Roy Takumi's shift from Higher Education to the Education committee and Rep. Ken Ito's shift from Education to Public Safety and Military Affairs. Rep. Mark Takai gets a chance to head the Higher Education Committee due to Rep. Takumi's change. There has also been a change to the Committee structures in the House, most notably from the Judiciary Committee, which has eliminated Hawaiian Affairs from its purview. Hawaiian Affairs is now associated with the former Water and Land Use Committee, creating a Water, Land and Hawaiian Affairs Committee.

The Senate has seen its fair share of changes as well. The most notable changes

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occur in leadership. Sen. Fred Hemmings is the new Minority Leader, replacing Sen. Sam Slom and Sen. Colleen Hanabusa replaces former Sen. Jonathan Chun and Sen. Cal Kawamoto who shared duties as the Majority Leader in the previous legislature. The Senate has also made some changes to their committee structure with regards to Hawaiian Affairs (this comes on the heels of an expected thrust from the Hawaiian community to address their concerns on a number of issues). The Judiciary has *added* Hawaiian Affairs (which was its own autonomous committee) to its long list of responsibilities. The chair of this new committee, Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs, is Sen. Colleen Hanabusa.

There are seven new Senators in the chamber this year. Two of them, Sen. Willie Espero and Sen. Paul Whalen are former House members who enjoyed successful Senate election campaigns in 2002. Another, Sen. Rosalyn Baker has returned from a 5-year hiatus to once again serve in the Senate and represent Maui. For more information on the new legislative session, log on to the Hawaii State Legislature's website www.capitol.hawaii.gov or stop by the State Capitol, room 401 and visit the Public Access Room.

CAPITOL TV



Capitol TV will be broadcast LIVE to the Neighbor Islands for the 2003 Regular Session. Live coverage of televised legislative proceedings to the neighbor islands will begin the week of January 20, 2003.

Through the active support of the University of Hawaii, these live broadcasts will be transmitted directly to the Neighbor Islands for the first time since legislative broadcasting began in 1993.

Neighbor Island citizens may view Legislative programs on the following channels:

Kauai: Channel 13
Maui, Molokai & Lanai: Channel 53
Hawaii: Channel 52

FIND YOUR LEGISLATOR

Due to the reapportionment of every State House and Senate district, you may have a new legislator. To find the definitive answer to who represents you at the State political level, log onto the legislature's website www.capitol.hawaii.gov. Once there, click onto **Legislative Information** and then click "Find Legislators". Pictured below is what you should see on your screen. Simply select a county, enter your street name and click "Submit".

Hawaii State Legislature
Find Legislators

To find out who your State Legislators are, please enter your street or road name. If your street name contains "East" or "West", you may need to try both "E" and "East" or "W" and "West" to find your legislators. Do NOT add the words street, road, avenue, highway, or any street abbreviation.

Select a county: Enter street name: Submit

Correct	Incorrect
Kanehahua	Kane Hwy
Aie Moana	Aie Moana Blvd
20th	Twentieth Ave
Halekua	Halekua Road

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MEET THE NEW PAR STAFF



Tish Kuruppu

Tish Kuruppu moved from Toronto, Canada to Honolulu in 1996. She has a BA in Psychology from Bard College in upstate New York, and an MS in Interior Architecture from Pratt Institute, also in New York. Tish's interests and hobbies are diverse. She pursued one of her interests in patisserie, and is now a certified Pastry Chef. She has lived in many countries as she was growing up and these experiences have cultivated her penchant for travel. She is looking forward to working in the Public Access Room and being a part of the 2003 legislative Session.



Sue Haglund

¡Buenos días! Bonjour! As a PAR volunteer during interim, Sue joins the PAR staff for the 2003 legislative session. She grew up both in the U.S. and Panama. Sue, "the Mola Queen", received her master's degree from the University of Hawaii-Manoa. As a Spanish lecturer from Kapiolani Community College, Sue is taking a semester off to learn more about the wonderful mechanics of our legislative process and to work with the public. Bitten by political bug, She plans to return to school to get a Master's degree in Political Science.



Trisha Y. Nakamura

Trisha Y. Nakamura is pleased to be working at the Public Access Room. She previously worked as a legislative aide, and now works at an elementary school. She loves teaching and learning new things. Trisha enjoys crafts like cross-stitching.



Seth Funk

My name is Seth Funk, and I am originally from Redondo Beach, California, a beach suburb in Los Angeles County. I came to Hawaii in 1999 as a student, and graduated in December 2002 with a BA in political science from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I look forward to the upcoming session as an opportunity to gain experience in the legislative process and to learn about democratic participation.

Workshop Schedule January

1/13/03	12:00 pm	Legislative Process
1/16/03	12:00 pm	Useful Internet Sites
1/21/03	12:00 pm	Legislative Process
1/22/03	12:00 pm	Useful Internet Sites
1/23/03	5:30 pm	Legislative Process
1/24/03	12:00 pm	Presenting Effective Testimony
1/27/03	5:30 pm	Useful Internet Sites
1/29/03	12:00 pm	Legislative Process
1/29/03	5:30 pm	Presenting Effective Testimony
1/31/03	12:00 pm	Reading Legislative Documents

February

2/3/03	12:00 pm	Useful Internet Sites
2/5/03	12:00 pm	Legislative Process
2/7/03	12:00 pm	Presenting Effective Testimony
2/10/03	12:00 pm	Reading Legislative Documents
2/12/03	12:00 pm	Legislative Process
2/12/03	5:30 pm	Useful Internet Sites
2/14/03	12:00 pm	Presenting Effective Testimony

*For more information on workshops, please call the Public Access Room at 587-0478.